

REMARKS

Applicant has studied the Office Action dated June 23, 2003 and has made amendments to the claims. It is submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. By virtue of this amendment, Claims 28, 30, 41, and 45 have been amended. Claims 28-46 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claims 28-46 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because Claim 28 needed to clearly identify "annular interface area", and because Claims 30, 41, and 45, needed to clearly and with proper antecedent basis identify "a first opening in the die carrier".

Applicant has amended Claims 28, 30, 41, and 45, in response to Examiner's rejections, to more clearly and distinctly recite the presently claimed invention. These amendments were made only to correct minor clarifications of claim language and not in any way for patentability of, or to further limit, the claims in view of any prior art.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments and discussion above, Applicant believes that the rejection of the Claims 28-46 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, has been overcome.

Applicant requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection to the claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the application or if the Examiner believes that there are any informalities that can be corrected by Examiner's amendment.

While Claims 28, 30, 41, and 45 have been amended, Applicant believes that no additional fee for claims amendment is currently due. Further, Applicant believes that this Response has been timely filed, and therefore no fee for extension of time to file this Response is due.

Appl. No. 10/070,080
Amdt. dated 2/2/2004
Reply to the Office Action of 10/31/2003

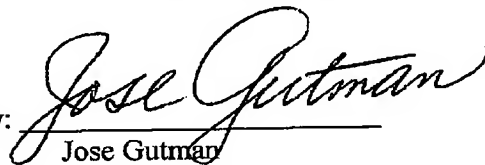
Docket No. 97-GR2-144

In any event, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required to prevent this patent application from becoming abandoned, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 50-1556.

Respectfully submitted,

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